

The decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to air an anti-Kerry documentary just before the election is a prime example of the danger we face when media companies are allowed to become corporate giants, especially when they force all their affiliate stations to pre-empt regular programming to broadcast something that amounts to a smear piece against Senator Kerry.

This constitutes electioneering, is a violation of federal law and should not be allowed or tolerated. Since Sinclair uses, free of charge, the public airways, it is obligated, by law, to serve the public interest. It's painfully obvious that the broadcasting of this documentary is not in the public's interest, because it is representative of only a portion of the public.

This is why media ownership rules should be strengthened and the license renewal process should require more than just a postcard returned by the licensee. I would like to voice my strong objection to Sinclair's license being renewed. The airing of this documentary is clearly partisanship. If they are allowed to air this program, then they should

also be required to  
give equal time to  
an opposing view and  
should be required  
to air "Going  
Upriver" immediately  
afterward.

Thank you.